GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2616
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2005
EARTHQUAKE RISK EVALUATION CENTRE
Mohite Shri Subodh

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set-up an Earthquake Risk Evaluation Centre in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has reviewed its working;

(d) if so, the details thereof?

(e) whether the Government has initiated action on the recommendations made in 89th Indian Science Congress for disaster preparedness of the country;

(f) if so, the details thereof, alongwith the progress made thereto; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Earthquake Risk Evaluation Centre (EREC) has been set up as an independent wing of India Meteorological Department (IMD). The principle mandate of EREC is to collate and integrate various data sets and to prepare the site specific Earthquake Risk Maps.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Activities of EREC are overseen by the Council of Meteorology and Atmospheric Sciences of IMD. Also, a Standing Advisory Committee comprising of experts from relevant institutions is responsible for reviewing the activities of EREC and providing overall guidance from time to time.

(e) to (g): Disaster Prevention and Management was one of the areas touched upon by the Hon'ble Prime Minister in his opening remarks. However, no specific recommendation was made related to Disaster Preparedness of the country in the 89th Indian Science Congress held during January 3-7, 2002 at Lucknow.